

Please amend the claims to read as indicated in the following list of claims:

Claims 1 - 34. Cancelled.

35. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus comprising:

a secure key-handling unit arranged to store a storage root key that forms the root node of a tree-structured node hierarchy the non-leaf nodes of which, other than the root node, each comprise, in encrypted form, a key used to encrypt the or each of its child nodes, and insecure storage for storing the hierarchy nodes other than the root node ;

the key-handling unit comprising:

a memory for storing a current decryption-root key;
a decrypted-access arrangement arranged to restrict decrypted access to the hierarchy nodes to those nodes decryptable by a chain of decryption rooted in said current decryption-root key; and

a current-decryption-root setting arrangement for storing in said memory, in decrypted form, the key of a selected non-leaf node of said hierarchy to serve as said current decryption-root key, the current-decryption-root setting arrangement enabling the selected non-leaf node to be changed
~~a key-handling unit for handling a tree-structured key hierarchy, the key-handling unit being arranged to treat a selected node of the hierarchy as the current root node such that those parts of the hierarchy that can only be reached by ascent from the current root node are inaccessible, the key-handling unit including an~~

~~arrangement for changing the node of the hierarchy serving as said current root node.~~

36. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the setting arrangement ~~for changing the current root node is enabled to do so is~~ arranged to permit the selected non-leaf node, and thereby the decryption-root key, to be changed only upon a predetermined set of at least one condition being met.

37. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 36, wherein at least one predetermined condition comprises the receipt by the key handling unit of an ~~authorisation~~ authorization value indicative of particular digital data.

38. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 37, wherein said ~~authorisation~~ authorization value is a digest of a protected process associated with the node that is intended to be the new selected non-leaf ~~current root~~ node.

39. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 36, wherein at least one predetermined condition comprises that a protected process associated with the node that is intended to be the new selected non-leaf ~~current root~~ node is about to be run by the computing platform apparatus.

40. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 39, wherein at least one predetermined

condition comprises that any other currently-activated processes running on the computing platform apparatus are benign.

41. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 36, wherein at least one predetermined condition comprises that the key-handling apparatus is requested to change the selected non-leaf ~~current root~~ node by a root of trust of the computing platform apparatus.

42. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 35, wherein upon start up of the computing platform, the node at the head of the hierarchy ~~as judged without regard to which node is the current root node,~~ forms said selected non-leaf ~~current root~~ node ~~upon start of the apparatus.~~

Claim 43. Cancelled.

44. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the key-handling unit is arranged always to hold securely the node at the head of the hierarchy, ~~as judged without regard to which node is the current root node,~~ internally in unencrypted form.

Claim 45. Cancelled.

46. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the key-handling unit is arranged to indicate the selected non-leaf ~~current root~~

node by signing a value associated with the node using an identity key associated with the key-handling unit.

47. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the key-handling unit is so arranged that only a particular type of non-leaf key node, herein a dynamic key node, can be used as the selected non-leaf current root node in addition to the node at the head of the hierarchy ~~as judged without regard to which node is the current root node.~~

48. [Currently amended] A computing platform Apparatus according to claim 47, wherein the key-handling unit apparatus is arranged, upon receipt of a corresponding command, to generate a dynamic ~~root~~ key node as a node of said ~~key~~ hierarchy.

49. [New] A computing platform according to claim 35, wherein the setting arrangement is arranged to permit the selected non-leaf node to be changed to one associated with a protected process upon receipt by the key-handling unit of a reliable indication that a mechanism expected to resist subversion will attempt to enforce appropriate access restrictions on that node and any descendent nodes, the key of the non-leaf node associated with said protected process being available for use in relation to the protected process upon becoming the decryption root key.